



Y1 Spring Curriculum Newsletter 2026

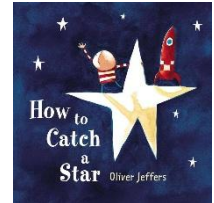
We're excited to welcome the children back for a fun and busy Spring term! This term we have lots of hands-on learning planned, from exploring the UK and the first flight, to creating art, cooking, and programming with Beebots. We can't wait to see the children learn, explore, and have fun!

SNACK and WATER- You are welcome to send your child to school with a fresh fruit snack for breaktime however fruit will continue to be available if needed. Children have access to their water bottles at all times throughout the day. Please make sure your child's bottle only contains water.

LABELS- Please clearly label water bottles, snack pots, lunchboxes and all items of clothing, especially jumpers, cardigans and coats/jackets with your child's name!

English

During our Talk for Writing sessions, the children will be developing their innovation skills by making changes to a story they know really well. We will start by enjoying the story *How to Catch a Star* by Oliver Jeffers, and the children will be encouraged to change the star in their own retell of the story. As they write, we will focus on using capital letters, full stops and finger spaces, and on reading their work back to make sure it makes sense.



Maths

This term in Maths, Year 1 will be exploring 2D and 3D shapes and their properties, learning about weight, and developing their skills in addition and subtraction within 20. Later in the term, children will move on to place value within 50. We will use lots of practical equipment and hands-on activities to help children understand new concepts before moving on to more abstract methods, transferring their knowledge and skills as their confidence grows.



Phonics

Throughout the year, the children will continue to progress through the Read Write Inc. programme, securing new sounds and using these confidently in their reading. There will be a strong focus on developing fluency and using 'Fred in your Head' (sounding out words silently) to help improve understanding of what they are reading. We will also be preparing the children for the Phonics Screening Check. Please continue to use the QR codes provided and encourage your child to read every day at home.



Science

In Science, we will be looking at 'animals including humans'. The children will explore different types of animals, including mammals, birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians, and learn how to group them. We will also learn about their basic needs for survival and their habitats. Further in the unit, we will be finding out about the human body, including our senses and how to stay healthy.

Alongside this, the children will be learning about seasonal change, with a focus on spring, noticing changes in the weather, plants and animals as the season changes. Learning will take place through practical activities, discussions and hands-on investigations.



Geography

Following our work on the local area, including our school, town, and county, we are excited to broaden our learning to explore the United Kingdom.

Children will be learning:

- The countries that make up the UK
- The capital cities of each country
- What makes each country unique, including landmarks, flags, and national flowers
- The seas that surround the UK



History

In our upcoming History unit, Year 1 will explore how transport has changed over time and learn about the story of the first flight. We will look closely at different types of transport from the past and present, also thinking ahead to how we think it may change in the future.

Following this, we will explore the Wright Brothers and the first flight. To bring this learning to life, we are hoping to visit Duxford, where children will see historic aircraft and learn more about the history of flight. This topic will help children understand how inventions and discoveries have shaped the way we travel today.



Art

Our unit for this term is 'Paper Play'. The children will be exploring the difference between 2D and 3D art, practising techniques to make tube towers, concertina folds, spirals and loops using a variety of paper and card. They will showcase the skills they have developed by creating a 'Tree of Life' sculpture.

To finish the unit, children will look at Louise Bourgeois' famous spider sculpture 'Maman' and work collaboratively to recreate it on a large scale using newspaper and masking tape.



DT

We will explore cooking and nutrition, learning about healthy eating through practical, hands-on activities. Throughout the unit, we will learn the difference between fruits and vegetables, use our senses to explore a variety of foods, and create our own smoothies including designing the packaging!



PE

Our PE this term will be on Monday and Wednesday. This term our PE lessons will focus on Yoga and Fitness. Please make sure your child comes to school wearing the correct PE kit. Here is the school uniform policy from our school website:

PE Kit - On PE days children can come to school in PE Kit
Coloured house t-shirt
Plain or school logo black tracksuit bottoms and sweatshirt
Plain black shorts
White socks
Training shoes

No earrings, tape cannot be used and earrings must be removed by the child.



My Happy Mind

In Spring 1 we will complete the module, '**Appreciate**'. We will learn what gratitude is, ways to express gratitude and learn why gratitude is important. In Spring 2, we will complete the unit, '**Relate**'. In this module, we will explore why relationships are important, the skills we need to build positive relationships and learn how we can get along with others.



Music

As a school, we follow the Charanga scheme of work giving children fun, practical music lessons through singing, listening, playing instruments and movement.



Computing

This term, we will be learning the basics of programming using Beebots. Children will create simple programs, explore how changing the order of instructions can change the outcome, and test their own work.



Religion and Worldviews

'How did the Universe come to be?' We will be exploring how different cultures explain the beginning of the world, particularly looking at the Christian and Hindu creation stories, looking at similarities and differences.

As we approach Easter, we will learn its significance within the Christian faith by exploring the Easter story.



Parents' Evening

Parents' evening will take place on **Thursday 12th February** this term. Please note that the **school will close at 1pm** for all pupils on this day. Further information will be sent closer to the date which will advise when slots will be released to book via Arbor.

Please feel free to speak to us if you have any questions or concerns or would like to discuss any of the above.

The Year 1 team

Mrs Dye, Miss Russell and Mr Verrell